

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Suspension or)	
)	CONSENT ORDER OF
Revocation of the Educator Certificate of)	
)	SUSPENSION
Ruben Sebastian Brown)	
)	
Certificate 191645)	

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on September 13, 2006. On June 21, 2006, the South Carolina Department of Education (Department) sent Ruben Sebastian Brown a notice of his right to a hearing before the State Board concerning the possible suspension or revocation of his South Carolina educator certificate 191645 by regular and certified mail, return receipt, restricted delivery. Mr. Brown requested a hearing, but subsequently agreed through legal counsel to waive his right to a hearing and to accept the suspension of his certificate for an eighteen-month period that would commence retroactively on June 8, 2006, through December 7, 2007. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to order the suspension of Mr. Brown's certificate for the agreed upon period, under the terms outlined in this Order.

Ruben
Sebastian
Brown

Initial Here

Date

FINDINGS OF FACT

Mr. Brown holds a professional certificate that expired on June 30, 2006. He has over seven years of experience as a teacher. During the 2005-06 school year, Mr. Brown was employed by the Charleston County School District and assigned as an English teacher at Garrett Academy of Technology. He also served as a homebound instructor. On June 8, 2006, Mr. Brown resigned from his position with the District following his admission that he falsified homebound

instruction time records and accepted salary payments for work not performed. Mr. Brown has repaid to the District the salary payments in question and no criminal charges have been filed.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

“The State Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person.” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2004), S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004); 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58. Just cause includes unprofessional conduct and dishonesty. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004). The State Board finds that the information presented supports its determination that just cause exists to suspend Mr. Brown’s educator certificate, commencing retroactively on June 8, 2006, through December 7, 2007. If Mr. Brown wishes to have his certificate reinstated at the end of the suspension period, he must make a written request to the Department’s Office of Educator Certification and he must submit a clear criminal record history from the South Carolina State Law Enforcement Division. Mr. Brown also must have taken all necessary steps to be eligible for the renewal of his expired certificate.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: /S/Joe Isaac

Joe Isaac, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina

September 13, 2006

I, Ruben Sebastian Brown, S.C. Educator Certificate 191645, do hereby agree to the proposed Consent Order of Suspension, consisting of two pages, and understand that this Order will be presented to the State Board of Education for approval on September 13, 2006.

/S/ Ruben Sebastian Brown
Ruben Sebastian Brown

Date